

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US2004/009442

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 701 832 A (BLUET JEAN LUC ;LECLERC YVES) 2 September 1994 (1994-09-02) page 4, line 3 -page 5, line 5; figure 1	1-3,5,9, 17-20
X	US 6 443 973 B1 (WHITMAN MICHAEL P) 3 September 2002 (2002-09-03) column 8, line 55 -column 9, line 8; figures 3,4	1,11, 17-19
X	US 5 601 601 A (CHRISTIAN JEFFREY J ET AL) 11 February 1997 (1997-02-11) column 5, line 34-62; figures 1,4,9	1-3,5,9, 17-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Assion, J-C

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/009442

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2701832	A	02-09-1994	FR 2701832 A1	02-09-1994
US 6443973	B1	03-09-2002	AU 5461200 A	18-12-2000
			EP 1191883 A1	03-04-2002
			JP 2003500153 T	07-01-2003
			WO 0072765 A1	07-12-2000
			WO 03000138 A2	03-01-2003
			US 2004111081 A1	10-06-2004
			US 2003050628 A1	13-03-2003
			US 2003073981 A1	17-04-2003
			US 2003050654 A1	13-03-2003
			US 2003055411 A1	20-03-2003
			US 6517565 B1	11-02-2003
			US 6716233 B1	06-04-2004
			US 2004153124 A1	05-08-2004
			US 2001031975 A1	18-10-2001
			US 2002049454 A1	25-04-2002
US 5601601	A	11-02-1997	US 5433725 A	18-07-1995
			US 5868785 A	09-02-1999
			AT 171608 T	15-10-1998
			AU 663901 B2	26-10-1995
			AU 2970992 A	17-06-1993
			CA 2084751 A1	14-06-1993
			DE 69227173 D1	05-11-1998
			DE 69227173 T2	18-02-1999
			EP 0546767 A2	16-06-1993
			JP 6000193 A	11-01-1994